

St. Francis Xavier Church

The First African American Catholic Community in the Country
Founded 1793

Served by the Josephites since 1871

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Holy Days: 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM

except when the Holy Day falls on a Monday

Holiday, Mass and Novena will be at 8:00 AM only

Weekdays

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 AM

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:00 AM followed by Bible Study

OTHER SCHEDULED EVENTS

Confessions

Before Masses or by appointments

Marriages

Notify the rectory at least 6 months in advance

Baptisms

*The Sacrament of Baptism is conferred
on the Fourth Sunday, at 2 PM.*

Notify the rectory at least 1 month in advance

Funerals

*Please notify the rectory before making
arrangements with funeral homes.*

*Rev. Xavier Edet, S.S.J.,
Pastor*

Religious Education

Joslyn Alexander, Director

SVD-SFX Head Start Center

(410) 685-7288



THE JOSEPHITES

"Glorious St. Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to you do we raise our hearts and hands to implore your powerful intercessions in obtaining from the benign Heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special favor we now implore of men and means for our seminary, college and novitiate. Guardian of the Word Incarnate, we feel animated with confidence that your prayers in our behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

Amen"

Mission Statement for St. Francis Xavier Church

In the tradition of the oldest African-American Catholic Church in the United States, St. Francis Xavier is committed to meeting the spiritual, educational and social needs of our parishioners and our surrounding community.

1501 E. OLIVER STREET • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21213

Rectory (410) 727-3103

Fax (410) 625-9587

Website - <http://www.HistoricFrancisXavier.org>

REFLECTION

From darkness and death to light and life

Do you know the joy and freedom of the good news (Gospel) of the kingdom of God? John the Baptist's enemies had sought to silence him, but the good news of God's kingdom of salvation cannot be silenced. As soon as John had finished his testimony Jesus began his in Galilee. Galilee was at the crossroads of the world and much traffic passed through this little region. It had been assigned to the tribes of Asher, Naphtali and Zebulon when the Israelites first came into the land (see Joshua 9). For a long time it had been under Gentile occupation (non-Jewish nations).

Jesus brings the light and truth of salvation to the world
The prophet Isaiah foretold that the good news of salvation would reach Jews and Gentiles in the "land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations" (Isaiah 9:1). Jesus begins the proclamation of the Gospel here to fulfill the word of God. The Old Testament prophets spoke of God's promise to send a Redeemer who would establish God's rule. That time is now fulfilled in Jesus who brings the light and truth of the Gospel to the world.

The "good news" brings peace, hope, truth, promise, immortality, and salvation

Jesus takes up John's message of repentance and calls his hearers to believe in the good news he has come to deliver. What is the good news which Jesus brings? It is the good news of peace - the Lord comes to reconcile and restore us to friendship with God. The good news of hope - the Lord comes to dwell with us and to give us a home with him in his heavenly kingdom. The good news of truth - the Lord Jesus sets us free from the lies and deception of Satan and opens our mind to understand the truth and revelation of God's word (John 8:32). The good news of promise - Jesus fulfills the promise of God to reward those who seek him with the treasure of heaven. The good news of immortality - Jesus overcomes sin and death for us in order to raise our lowly bodies to be like his glorious body which will never die again. And the good news of salvation - the Lord Jesus delivers us from every fear, every sin, and every obstacle that would keep us from entering his everlasting kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy.

The Gospel is the power and the wisdom of God - both power to change and transform our lives and wisdom to show us how to live as sons and daughters of our Father in heaven. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit the Lord makes it possible for us to receive his word with faith and to act upon it with trust and obedience.

Stewardship Reflections

Matthew 19:21

Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M.

Sunday

8:00 A.M. In Loving Memory of Lillian Futado on the Anniversary of her Birthday, req. by the Browns, Singleton and Tackett Family

11:00 A.M. People of the Parish

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. (1) God's blessings on the Walters and Rutkowski families, req. by John Rutkowski and Jeff Martin
(2) Healing mercies for Sister Magdala, OSP, req. by Office Staff

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Loving Memory of all the deceased sisters and brothers in the Washington & Mello families, req. by Dottie Mello

Thursday

8:00 A.M. Healing mercies on Lucretia Coates and continued blessings on Mildred Lane, req. by Dottie Mello

Friday

8:00 A.M. God's healing mercies on Catherine Wesson, req. by Aunt Dottie Mello

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10, 13, 17
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Gospel: Matthews 5:1-12a



SPECIAL NOTICES

Scriptures for Daily Mediation

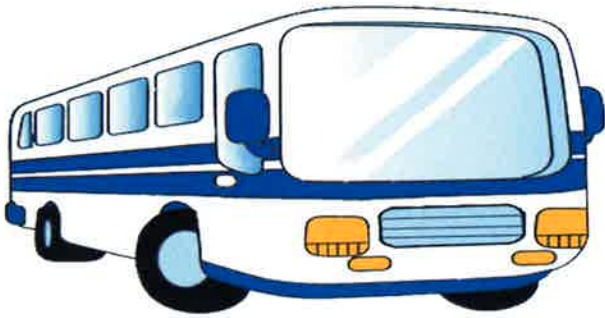


"And the Scripture gives us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled" Rom.15:4

Day	Date	Gospel
Mon.	1/23/2017	Mark 3:22-30
Tues.	1/24/2017	Mark 3:31-35
Wed.	1/25/2017	Mark 16:15-18
Thurs.	1/26/2017	Mark 4:21-25
Fri.	1/27/2017	Mark 4:26-34
Sat.	1/28/2017	Mark 4:35-41

Easter Monday Atlantic City Trip

SFX trip to Atlantic City is scheduled for Easter Monday, April 17, 2017. We will be going to Resorts Casino. More details to follow.



Important Notice!!

The NHM&W Tailgate Party has been cancelled due to lack of interest. It seems that more interest is generated when the home team is playing. Upcoming activities will be advertised at future dates.

SPECIAL NOTICES

It's that Time Again! Mother Mary Lange 2017 Award Banquet! February 10, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

I have tickets for the Mother Lange Dinner; please reserve your seat with your money to support our awardees:

- ***Leadership:- Joslyn Brown Alexander***
- ***Service: Michael Allen***
- ***Youth: Candre Henry***

The ticket cost is \$60.00 pp. Please reserve your tickets now. We have a limited amount of seats.

Important Notice:

Effective January 1, 2017, the rate to rent the Undercroft will be a total of \$500.00: \$100.00 to the Archdiocese for insurance and \$400.00 for the hall. If it is a weekend function an additional sum of \$50.00 will be charged for clean up. Even with the increase we are still one of the cheapest halls around.

The HARAMBEE Youth Ministry Team is sponsoring the Raffle for College Care Packages. The prize is a basket of cheer and goodies valued over \$350.00. Most of the proceeds will go towards providing care packages for our college students. The cost of the raffle tickets is \$5.00 each. Please contact Marsha Powell at 443-4676-2841.



Special Notices

CDA Court # 2257

Will be hosting the Black Catholic Unsung Hero Women Award on Sunday, February 26, 2017 the 11:00 a.m. Mass. We are asking that you nominate a hard working woman who epitomizes the best in caring for family, church and community.

Applications are in the back of the church. They are due back by Sunday February 5, 2017. If you have any questions, please contact Marsha Powell at 443-467-2841.

SFX Circle Club Foxwood Casino Trip

We are still accepting travelers for the Circle Club trip.



SFX SWINGERS

The Swingers are sponsoring their annual Bull and Oyster Roast on Sunday March 5, 2017 at 3:00 pm. Please see any member of the Swingers for ticket information.



Special Notices

Campaign Update

Please be vigilant in honoring your pledges for Embracing Our Mission and the Archbishop Appeal. Both can impact our church in a positive manner.

Mother Lange Guild Board of Directors

The Mother Lange Guild Board of Directors Cordially invite you to attend the Annual Liturgical Celebration commemorating the 135th Anniversary of the death of Servant of God Mother Mary Lange, OSP, on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at Two o'clock in the afternoon at Our Lady of Mount Providence Convent, 701 Gun Road, Baltimore MD. 21227.



St. Francis Xavier New Website

St. Francis has a new website you can go there to retrieve the weekly bulletin. The website is: www.historicfrancisxavier.org.

Sunday School Open House

SFX Sunday School will host an Open House on Sunday, January 29, 2017 at 9:30 am. Join us to hear about our Religious Education Program and how much parent involvement is necessary for your child's faith formation. Come to meet the catechists, tour the classrooms, meet other parents ask questions and find out what your child is learning.

Joslyn Alexander

SPECIAL NOTICE!

please Keep Your Prayers

- *All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX*

Step up to the New Year!!

We are inviting all parishioners to step up to the New Year by making a onetime donation to support the continued renovations and repairs of our church and rectory. Your contribution will be for St. Francis Xavier only. White donation envelopes will be located on the table in the rear of the church.



Oblate Sisters of Providence Annual Chicken Dinner

The Oblate Sisters of Providence will host the 10th Annual Chicken Dinner on Saturday, February 25th, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at St. Frances Academy Center, 501 E. Chase St. Baltimore, MD 21202. Tickets are \$10.00. Volunteers and donations are needed. Please contact Sister Helene Therese, OSP at (410) 536-5687 or Mr. Ralph Moore 443-255-5600. Proceeds are toward Motherhouse expenses.

For Your Information

Please Note:

If you are sick at home or in the hospital, or if you know of someone who is, Please Contact the Rectory, 410-727-3103. Please also remember to contact the Rectory to advise us when to Remove your name from the Sick and/or Shut-in Listing.

Mass Intentions

The normal donation for a Mass Request is \$5.00 and must be paid at the time of request. We will no longer take Mass requests over the telephone. Mass requests envelopes are located on the table in the rear of the church.

Address changed?

Please notify the office if you have moved for address changes.

Proper Church Etiquette

No cell phones or other electronic devices should be left on while in Church, especially during Mass. Also, please do not chew gum, eat or drink at anytime while you are in Church, especially when receiving Holy Communion our mouths should be free from all food items. Parents please do not bring potato chips or other foods to give your children during Mass. Food is being found in the Pews. Please give them snacks before Mass. If you cannot hear the Lector or other Ministers from the Altar, please raise your hand and do not yell out in Church, this is very disrespectful. We ask your full cooperation in adhering to these rules of

Parish Membership/Census Update:

The use of Church envelopes is the responsible way to support your Parish. Parishioners are requested to register at the Rectory Office, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or complete the following form:

Name _____

Street _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

- Moving out of Parish
- Want Envelopes
- Change of telephone number/address
-

Please cut out and drop in the Collection Basket or mail to the Rectory.